

Kentucky has 200,000 white population more than North-Carolina; yet the latter has as many colleges as the former, as many academies, more common schools, by 1,000, and as many children at school as she has. The same is substantially true in the comparison between Tennessee and North-Carolina.

It must also be borne in mind that North-Carolina has no large cities, like Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and Kentucky, to build up and sustain colleges and high schools.

Upon a calm review of the entire facts, it is neither immodest nor unjust to assert, that North-Carolina is clearly ahead of all the other slaveholding States with her system of public instruction; while she compares favorably in several respects with some of the New England and North-Western States.

But, though our educational condition and prospects are thus cheering, we have only made a good beginning in the great work. There are now from fifty to sixty thousand children in the State, *who never go to school*; we must reach these also, or the most of them, for in ten years nearly all of them who are males will be citizens, and will vote to make laws to govern you, themselves, all of us. What if they grow up in ignorance and vice, they will not be the only sufferers! The intelligent, the virtuous, and the owners of property especially, are all deeply concerned in this movement; and it behooves them to do every thing that can be done, justly and with reason, to prevent as well as to diminish vice and crime. Ignorance creates injustice and crime; injustice and crime create courts of law; courts of law create taxes; and men of substance have these taxes to pay.

What we need now, is:—

1st. *More and better teachers for our common schools.*—We have now, it is true, many competent and efficient teachers; but some means should be provided to increase the number. To this end, if we cannot have a normal school or schools under State patronage, we should organize and hold teacher's institutes in every county; and if not in every county, by all means in every congressional district.